

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1 1. (Currently amended) A sprayable coating agent in the
2 form of granules containing cellulose and/or regenerated cellulose
3 and/or cellulosic raw materials ~~as well as~~ and/or mixtures thereof
4 with synthetic fibers and/or inorganic fibers and/or in-organic,
5 coarse-grained, fine-grained or pulverulent substances and/or
6 organic polymer materials and/or auxiliaries or additives, whereby
7 the starting materials and/or mixtures thereof being compacted to
8 form a pressed piece, subsequently ground up and optionally sieved,
9 so that the granules have a density of 1 g/cm³ to 5 g/cm³, a mois-
10 ture content of 1% to 20%, a bulk density of 150 g/l to 1500 g/l
11 and so that the ground up and optionally sieved granules have the
12 following particle-size distribution:

13 0 - 40 % by weight	0 - 600 µm
14 5 - 55 % by weight	600 - 1250 µm
15 5 - 95 % by weight	> 1250 µm

16 or

17 0 - 15 % by weight	0 - 800 µm
18 10 - 85 % by weight	800 - 2000 µm
19 0 - 15 % by weight	> 2000 µm.

1 2. (currently amended) The sprayable coating agent
2 ~~granules~~ according to claim 1 wherein the density of the granules
3 ~~preferably~~ ranges from 1.2 g/cm³ to 3.1 g/cm³.

1 3. (currently amended) The sprayable coating agent
2 ~~granules~~ according to claim 1 wherein the moisture content of the
3 granules ~~preferably~~ ranges from 2% to 12%.

1 4. (currently amended) The sprayable coating agent
2 ~~granules~~ according to claim 1 wherein the bulk density of the
3 granules ~~preferably~~ ranges from 170 g/l to 600 g/l.

1 5. (currently amended) The sprayable coating agent
2 ~~granules~~ according to claim 1 wherein the granules have the follow-
3 ing particle-size distribution:

4	0.2 - 5 % by weight	< 100 μm
5	1 - 15 % by weight	100 - 250 μm
6	4 - 25 % by weight	250 - 400 μm
7	8 - 30 % by weight	400 - 600 μm
8	10 - 35 % by weight	600 - 800 μm
9	15 - 40 % by weight	800 - 1250 μm
10	7 - 20 % by weight	> 1250 μm .

1 6. (currently amended) The sprayable coating agent
2 ~~granules~~ according to claim 1 wherein the granules have the follow-
3 ing particle-size distribution:

4 5 - 10 % by weight	< 800 μm
5 10 - 50 % by weight	800 - 1250 μm
6 25 - 70 % by weight	1250 - 1600 μm
7 7 - 15 % by weight	1600 - 2000 μm
8 3 - 5 % by weight	> 2000 μm .

1 7. (currently amended) The sprayable coating agent
2 ~~granules~~ according to claim 1 wherein the cellulose is selected
3 from the group consisting of cotton, linters, pulp, paper, flax,
4 hemp, jute, cuprammonium silk, rayon, lyocel and/or colored fibers.

1 8. (currently amended) The sprayable coating agent
2 ~~granules~~ according to claim 1 wherein the cellulosic raw material
3 is wood, wood shavings, sawdust, straw and/or cork.

1 9. (currently amended) The sprayable coating agent
2 ~~granules~~ according to claim 1 wherein the synthetic fibers are
3 polyester, polyamide, polyacrylonitrile, poly-urethane,
4 polyethylene, polypropylene and/or acetate fibers.

1 10. (currently amended) The sprayable coating agent
2 ~~granules~~ according to claim 1 wherein the inorganic fibers are
3 silicate, water glass, glass, metal and/or carbon fibers.

1 11. (currently amended) The sprayable coating agent
2 ~~granules~~ according to claim 1 wherein the proportion of cellulosic
3 ~~proportion in the granules in the mixture~~ ranges from 40% to 100%
4 by weight.

1 12. (currently amended) The sprayable coating agent
2 ~~granules~~ according to claim 1 wherein the proportion of synthetic
3 fibers in the ~~granules~~ mixture ranges from 0% to 60% by weight.

1 13. (currently amended) The sprayable coating agent
2 ~~granules~~ according to claim 1 wherein the proportion of inorganic
3 fibers in the ~~granules~~ mixture ranges from 0% to 60% by weight.

1 14. (currently amended) The sprayable coating agent
2 ~~granules~~ according to claim 1 wherein the inorganic,
3 coarse-grained, fine-grained or pulverulent substances are marble,
4 quartz sand, silicic acid, chalk, gypsum, carbonates and/or metal
5 oxides.

1 15. (currently amended) The sprayable coating agent
2 ~~granules~~ according to claim 1 wherein the proportion of inorganic
3 coarse-grained, fine-grained or pulverulent substances in the
4 ~~granules~~ mixture ranges from 0% to 40% by weight.

1 16. (currently amended) The sprayable coating agent
2 ~~granules~~ according to claim 1 wherein the organic polymer materials
3 are polyethylene, polypropylene, polytetrafluoroethylene, polysty-
4 rene foam, acrylates, rubber and/or other modified and unmodified
5 polysaccharides.

1 17. (currently amended) The sprayable coating agent
2 ~~granules~~ according to claim 1 wherein the proportion of organic
3 polymer materials in the ~~granules~~ mixture ranges from 0% to 40% by
4 weight.

1 18. (currently amended) The sprayable coating agent
2 ~~granules~~ according to claim 1 wherein the ~~granules~~ mixtures contain
3 the familiar auxiliaries and additives in amounts ranging from 0%
4 to 40% by weight.

1 19. (currently amended) The sprayable coating agent
2 ~~granules~~ according to claim 1 wherein the auxiliaries and additives
3 are organic or inorganic substances, colorants, binders, curing
4 agents, dispersants, preservatives, fungicides, mica,
5 flame-resistant materials, nanoparticles of any type and/or water.

1 20. (currently amended) The sprayable coating agent
2 ~~granules~~ according to claim 19 wherein the colorant is a white or
3 colored organic or inorganic colorant.

1 21. (currently amended) A method for making the
2 sprayable coating agent granules according to claim 1, the method
3 comprising the step of:

4 grinding up the fibrous and coarse-grained starting materials
5 before granulation such that the grinding stock has the following
6 particle-size distribution:

7 5 - 1 % by weight	< 100 μm
8 30 - 60 % by weight	100 - 250 μm
9 10 - 30 % by weight	250 - 400 μm
10 5 - 20 % by weight	400 - 600 μm
11 0 - 3 % by weight	< 600 μm .

1 22. (currently amended) The method for the production of
2 the sprayable coating agent granules according to claim 21 wherein
3 the starting materials or material mixtures are compacted in a
4 generally known manner to form a pressed piece using a contact
5 force ranging from 30 kN to 400 kN, subsequently ground up and
6 optionally sieved.

1 23. (currently amended) The method for the production of
2 the sprayable coating agent granules according to claim 21 wherein
3 the starting materials or material mixtures are compacted using a
4 commercially available compactor ~~, for instance, a roller compactor~~
5 ~~or a flat matrix press.~~

1 24. (currently amended) The method for the production of
2 the sprayable coating agent granules according to claim 21 wherein
3 some of the auxiliaries or additives are admixed with the starting
4 materials or material mixtures prior to the compacting, grinding or
5 sieving operations.

1 25. (currently amended) The method for the production of
2 the sprayable coating agent granules according to claim 21 wherein
3 water is added to the starting materials or material mixtures prior
4 to the compacting, grinding or sieving operations.

1 26. (currently amended) The method for the further
2 processing of the sprayable coating agent granules according to
3 claim 21 wherein the granules are stirred with water to form a
4 stiff, semi-fluid, pasty coating compound having a viscosity
5 ranging from 300 to 20,000 mPas.

1 27. (currently amended) The method for the further
2 processing of the sprayable coating agent granules according to
3 claim 1 wherein the granules are stirred with water and optionally
4 with conventional auxiliaries and/or additives to form a stiff,
5 semi-fluid, pasty coating compound having a viscosity ranging from
6 300 to 80,000 mPas.

1 28. (currently amended) The method for the further
2 processing of the sprayable coating agent granules according to

3 claim 1 wherein the granules are stirred with water and optionally
4 with colored fibers and/or metallic fibers and/or metallic parti-
5 cles and/or mother-of-pearl and/or inorganic and/or organic dyed
6 particles in order to achieve certain visual effects so as to form
7 a stiff, semi-fluid, pasty coating compound having a viscosity
8 ranging from 300 to 90,000 mPas.

1 29. (currently amended) The method for the further
2 processing of the sprayable coating agent granules according to
3 claim 1 wherein the stiff, semi-fluid, pasty coating compound
4 contains 5% to 40% by weight of granules, 0% to 60% by weight of
5 water and 0% to 95% by weight of auxiliaries and/or additives.

1 30. (currently amended) The method for the further
2 processing of the sprayable coating agent granules according to
3 claim 1 wherein the stiff, semi-fluid, pasty coating compound is
4 applied onto the wall and/or ceiling surface to be coated with a
5 spraying device ~~in a generally known manner~~ such that the desired
6 surface structure can be set by the granularity of the granules.

1 31. (currently amended) The method for the further
2 processing of the sprayable coating agent granules according to
3 claim 1 wherein the stiff, semi-fluid, pasty coating compound is
4 applied onto the wall and/or ceiling surface to be coated with
5 ~~familiar techniques using, for instance, a trowel or spatula.~~

1 32. (currently amended) The method for the further
2 processing of the sprayable coating agent granules according to
3 claim 26 wherein the stiff, semi-fluid, pasty coating compound
4 retains its stable consistency even after a prolonged pot life, and
5 can be used even after a prolonged period of time.

1 33. (currently amended) The method for the further
2 processing of the sprayable coating agent granules according to
3 claim 1 wherein a dry mixture is prepared that contains 5% to 100%
4 by weight of granules and 0% to 95% by weight of auxiliaries and/or
5 additives.

1 34. (currently amended) The method according to claim 33
2 for the further processing of the sprayable coating agent wherein
3 the dry mixture is stirred with water to form a stiff, semi-fluid,
4 pasty coating compound and is then applied onto the wall and/or
5 ceiling surface to be coated.

35. (Canceled)

1 36. (New) A method of applying a decorative coating,
2 finishing or structuring to an interior or exterior surface which
3 comprises the step of applying directly onto the interior or
4 exterior surface the sprayable coating agent defined in claim 1.

1 37. (New) The sprayable coating agent defined in claim 5
2 comprising a mixture of pre-ground, non-sieved granules of pulp
3 cellulose as the granules of cellulose, and a colorant as the
4 auxiliary or additive material.